considering the objections and the various factors mentioned in Rule 7 of the Notaries Rules, 1956, a decision to recommend appointment or rejection of the applicant is taken by the Competent Authority. On the basis of the recommendations of the Competent Authority, decision is taken by the Central Government to appoint or not to appoint the applicant as Notary.

Improvement in Court Proceedings

†556. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any improvement is being made in respect of court proceedings which take many years to give judgement with a view to provide quick benefit of judicial system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (c) Various measures have been taken by the Government to simplify procedures and speed up disposal of cases. These include amendment of the Civil Procedure Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial Officers, establishment of Special Courts/tribunals and adoption of alternative modes of dispute resolution, such as, arbitration and conciliation. Lok Adalats have been given a statutory base as supplementary forum for resolution of disputes.

So far as the Supreme Court of India is concerned, the pendency has already come down from 1,06,397 cases in 1991 to 20,260 cases as on 1.2.2000. This was possible due to more practical categorisation and classification of cases, stabilisation of Benches, avoiding delisting as far as possible and ensuring non-accumulation of defective matters and prompt listing of cases. Similar measures are also being taken by the High Courts.

Speedy disposal of cases is a continuous process.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.